



**Testimony
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Connecticut Council of Small Towns
Education Committee
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SB-287 – AN ACT CONCERNING INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOLS.

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) supports SB-287 which will help municipalities and school districts address indoor air quality issues to benefit the public health of students and school personnel.

The School Indoor Air Quality Working Group, of which COST is a member, developed recommendations to address indoor air quality issues in schools.

COST supports provisions in the bill which extend the deadline for the working group by one year. Given the issues the working group is undertaking and the collaborative process, an additional year is warranted.

Recognizing that school districts will incur costs in retaining consultants to perform required inspections, the bill provides that such costs are reimbursable under the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system grant. COST fully supports this provision.

In addition, the bill staggers inspection requirements over a five-year period. This makes a lot of sense inasmuch as inspectors and technicians are not readily available to perform such inspections on a more frequent basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of SB-287.